

Get the Best out of this Hand

Game Tuesday Evening 27/06/23 Hand No. 24

Dlr: West

Vul: Love all

Bidding

N	E	S	W
			3S
X	4S	6H	P
P	P		

How to Play

West has a perfectly normal 3S opener, leaving North with the decision of making a take-out double or not. It's fourteen points, including the worthless Queen in the opponent's suit, but it does have the advantage of having the perfect 1444 shape making it playable in all suits outside spades. I would certainly double for take-out with the hand putting the spotlight on East. With little values and so many spades opponents are extremely likely to be making a slam, so take up bidding space and raise partner to 4S. As seems to be the modern way, South is now looking at the best hand at the table, with all three of the other players having bid and the bidding has already reached the level of 4S! Enough of this nonsense, a simple leap to 6H closes an auction that was short and sweet.

It all looks quite simple, but only four of the fifteen tables bid the slam. At my table, North took a conservative view and passed the 3S opener. South now bid 5H over 4S, but North fearing there might be two Aces missing passed. Perhaps a little bit more positivity next time.

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So tips of the day –

1. When you get a chance to make things difficult for the opponents as raising to 4S does here then take the opportunity.
2. When opponents are trying to make things difficult for you be bold and positive.

♠ Q
♥ Q872
♦ KJ84
♣ AQ86

♠ AK98632
♥ 10
♦ 32
♣ 1074

♠ 5
♥ AKJ9654
♦ AQ107
♣ K

♠ J1074
♥ 3
♦ 965
♣ J9532

N
S
W
E